

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with R. Joseph Trojan on 8/7/09.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

Claim 1, at line 9: after "operation of the power switch;", insert - - "whereas the operating button is depressed, a terminal plate contacts an electrode, to establish an electrical connection between the sheet type battery and the heating element, and as the operating button is released, the terminal plate is separated from the electrode due to the elasticity of the operating button in the direction toward which it protrudes, a lock portion integral with the slide member interposed between the terminal plate and the electrode when the slide member is in the position at which it closes the ignition window;"

Claim 1, at line 12, replace. "a terminal plate and an electrode" with "the terminal plate and the electrode,"

Claims 7-12 has been cancelled.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-6 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Allowance of claims 1-6 is indicated because the prior art of record does not teach or fairly suggest to one of ordinary skill in the art, in combination with the other limitations of the independent claim 1, having an operation button whereas the operating button is depressed, a terminal plate contacts an electrode, to establish an electrical connection between the sheet type battery and the heating element, and as the operating button is released, the terminal plate is separated from the electrode due to the elasticity of the operating button in the direction toward which it protrudes, a lock portion integral with the slide member interposed between the terminal plate and the electrode when the slide member is in the position at which it closes the ignition window.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to VINOD D. PATEL whose telephone number is (571)272-4785. The examiner can normally be reached on 7.15 A.M. TO 3.45 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tu B. Hoang can be reached on 571-272-4780. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Vinod D. Patel/ 8/7/09

Examiner A. U. 3742

/TU B HOANG/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3742